

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An agency communication section is equipped in an intranet, and when communications are made with a slave unit on the Internet which is located outside a firewall, the agency communication  
5 section executes encryption/decryption by agency in place of a slave unit having no mechanism for encryption in the intranet. The slave unit having a mechanism for encryption judges whether it is located inside or outside the firewall, and executes encryption if it is located outside or executes no encryption  
10 if it is located inside.